Droughts are inevitable natural phenomena, which are not altogether preventable.

There are, however, a number of instrumentalities in the form of preventive irrigation, Watershed Development Dryland farming techniques, crop diversification and adoption of suitable drought resistance varities of crops which mitigate the effect of drought. These form subject matter of schemes under implementation by various Central Ministries and State Governments.

Central teams on droughts and floods

359. SHRI SURENDRA LATH:
DR. ABRAR AHMED:
SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU):
PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central teams which were sent to various drought affected States to study the damage done to crops and its impact on farmers have submitted their reports to Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof in respect of each State;

(c) the nature of assistance provided to affected States, so far; and

(d) whether the Central teams were sent to flood hit States including Assam and Bihar also; if so, the findings thereof and the Central aid sought and given to each of these two States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The States visited by the Central Team and the amounts approved

by the High Level Committee subject to adjustment of balance available in the Calamity Relief Fund of the States are as under:—

State	Amounts in Crores
Andhra Pradesh	174.61
Chhattisgarh	92.73
Haryana	109.65
Himachal Pradesh	39.45
Jharkhand	42.06
Karnataka	221.46
Madhya Pradesh	125.89
Maharashtra	20.00
Orissa	120.18
Punjab	125.41
Rajasthan	207.68
Tamil Nadu	228.30
Uttaranchal	10.62
Uttar Pradesh	481.10
TOTAL:	1999.14

(d) According to information furnished by the Ministry of Home Affairs which is the nodal Ministry in the case of disasters, other than the droughts, States of Assam and Bihar have sought assistance of Rs. 118.34 crore and Rs. 118.681 crore respectively. As the. amounts found admissible as per norms were within the available balances of Calamity Relief Fund of these States, no amount could be sanctioned from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF).